

## ABSTRACT

This relates to filter columns for isolating nucleic acids. The filter column is adapted for stable placement within the upper portion of standard plastic collection tubes of various sizes. The body of the filter column has a number of surfaces to accommodate placement within variously sized collection tubes. The filter column contains nucleic acid-specific filter which can be located at alternate regions within the filter column, providing different filter surface areas and loading volume capacities using the same column body. The filter column has an opening on an upper end adapted to be sealed by a cap. A method for recovering nucleic acids using such filter column is also provided.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"**

Express Mail Label No.: EL676223463US

Date of Deposit: June 15, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: BOX PATENT APPLICATION, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20331.

  
Timothy Ferguson